

**Applicant Details**

First Name	Marissa
Middle Initial	C
Last Name	López
Citizenship Status	U. S. Citizen
Email Address	<a href="mailto:malopez@jd24.law.harvard.edu">malopez@jd24.law.harvard.edu</a>
Address	<div><b>Address</b> <b>Street</b> <b>48 Eustis Street, Apt. 3</b> <b>City</b> <b>Cambridge</b> <b>State/Territory</b> <b>Massachusetts</b> <b>Zip</b> <b>02140</b> <b>Country</b> <b>United States</b></div>
Contact Phone Number	303-885-1088

**Applicant Education**

BA/BS From	Stanford University
Date of BA/BS	June 2019
JD/LLB From	Harvard Law School
	<a href="https://hls.harvard.edu/dept/ocs/">https://hls.harvard.edu/dept/ocs/</a>
Date of JD/LLB	May 23, 2024
Class Rank	School does not rank
Law Review/Journal	Yes
Journal(s)	Harvard Law Review
Moot Court Experience	Yes
Moot Court Name(s)	Upper Level Ames Moot Court

**Bar Admission****Prior Judicial Experience**

Judicial Internships/Externships	No
Post-graduate Judicial Law Clerk	No

## Specialized Work Experience

### Recommenders

Suk-Gersen, Jeannie  
jsg@law.harvard.edu  
617-496-8834

Charles, Guy-Uriel  
gcharles@law.harvard.edu

Tobin, Susannah Barton  
stobin@law.harvard.edu  
617-496-3673

**This applicant has certified that all data entered in this profile and any application documents are true and correct.**

**Marissa C. López**

malopez@jd24.law.harvard.edu • 303-885-1088 • 48 Eustis Street, Apt. 3, Cambridge, MA 02140

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June 21, 2023

The Honorable Juan R. Sanchez  
District Judge  
Eastern District of Pennsylvania  
James A. Byrne United States Courthouse  
601 Market Street, Room 14613  
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1729

Dear Chief Judge Sanchez:

I write to apply for a clerkship in your chambers beginning in 2024. I am currently a third-year student at Harvard Law School and the Supreme Court Chair of the *Harvard Law Review*.

Before law school, I worked as the Director of International Development at wikiHow, an award-winning educational technology company based in Palo Alto. As Director, I managed a four-hundred-person team spanning over thirty countries. This summer, I am a Summer Associate in the litigation practice groups of Ropes & Gray and White & Case.

Attached are my resume, law school grade sheet, and writing sample. The writing sample is a case comment on the recent Second Circuit decision in *Silva v. Farrish*; it appeared in the May issue of the *Harvard Law Review*. The following individuals are submitting letters of recommendation on my behalf and welcome inquiries in the meantime:

Professor Guy-Uriel Charles  
gcharles@law.harvard.edu  
617-998-1742

Professor Jeannie Suk Gersen  
jsg@law.harvard.edu  
617-496-5487

Assistant Dean Susannah  
Barton Tobin  
stobin@law.harvard.edu  
617-496-3673

Please let me know if I can provide any other information that would be helpful to you. I would be honored to contribute my skills to the important work of your chambers. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Marissa C. López

## Marissa C. López

malopez@jd24.law.harvard.edu • 303-885-1088 • 48 Eustis Street, Apt. 3, Cambridge, MA 02140

### EDUCATION

**Harvard Law School**, Cambridge, MA

J.D. Candidate, June 2024 (expected)

Activities: *Harvard Law Review*, Supreme Court Chair  
 Professor Jeannie Suk Gersen, Research Assistant  
 Professor Guy-Uriel Charles, Civil Procedure Teaching Fellow  
 Professor Kristen Stilt, Property Teaching Fellow  
 Native Law Student Association, Vice President

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA

B.A.H. in Political Science, Minor in Spanish, June 2019

Activities: Professor Jon Krosnick, Research Assistant  
 Embassy of Mexico NAFTA Office, Intern

Honors: Haas Public Service Honors; Pi Sigma Alpha Honors; Alumni Association Award of Excellence

Thesis: *From Prison to the Polls: Felon Re-Enfranchisement State by State*

### EXPERIENCE

**The Honorable Stanley Marcus**, 11th Circuit Court of Appeals

2025 – 2026 Term (Expected)

*Judicial Law Clerk*

**Ropes & Gray**, New York, NY

Summer 2023

*Summer Associate*

- Research and draft memoranda for litigation, investigation, and enforcement practice groups
- Attend court proceedings and assist in attorney preparations for oral argument
- Collaborate with attorneys on pro bono matters assisting Lakota Nation youth and educators

**White & Case**, Palo Alto, CA & New York, NY

*1L Diversity Fellow & 2L Summer Associate*

Summer 2022 & Summer 2023

- Conduct legal research and draft legal memos for antitrust litigation and international arbitration matters
- Prepare outlines and attend client calls with attorneys in litigation practice groups
- Completed national training in New York office as part of Diversity Fellowship Program

**Committee for Public Counsel Services**, Malden, MA

Sep 2022 – Jan 2023

*Youth Advocacy Division Clinical Intern*

- Drafted, revised, and filed briefs and motions in Massachusetts trial and appellate courts
- Oversaw and organized discovery in juvenile murder case including interviews with client, family, and witnesses
- Prepared and presented in oral arguments in clerk's hearings as a student attorney for juvenile clients

**wikiHow**, Palo Alto, CA

*Director of International Development*

Jul 2020 – May 2021

- Directed and managed 18 international sites and 400-person team for award-winning EdTech company
- Managed \$1.2 million annual budget and evaluated costs against expected market
- Led recruitment and hiring process for international contractors and full-time Project Managers

*International Project Manager*

Aug 2019 – Jul 2020

- Managed social media strategy for international sites, reaching 1.5 million followers in 44 countries
- Designed and launched wikiHow's 18<sup>th</sup> international site, wikiHow Farsi (wikihowfarsi.com)

### LANGUAGES & INTERESTS

**Languages:** Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (intermediate)

**Interests:** Backpacking and Hiking, Pottery and Ceramics, Cycling New England

Harvard Law School

Date of Issue: May 26, 2023  
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Page 1 / 2

Record of: Marissa Cristina Lopez  
Current Program Status: JD Candidate  
Pro Bono Requirement Complete

JD Program				2275	Lawyering for Children & Youth Clinical Seminar	H	2
Fall 2021 Term: September 01 - December 03					Hazen, Crisanne		
					Fall 2022 Total Credits:		12
1000	Civil Procedure 7	H	4		Winter 2023 Term: January 01 - January 31		
	Charles, Guy-Uriel						
1002	Criminal Law 7	P	4	8001C	Child Advocacy Clinic - Advanced Clinical	H	2
	Kamali, Elizabeth Papp				Hazen, Crisanne		
1006	First Year Legal Research and Writing 7A	H	2		Winter 2023 Total Credits:		2
	Tobin, Susannah						
1003	Legislation and Regulation 7	P	4		Spring 2023 Term: February 01 - May 31		
	Rakoff, Todd						
1004	Property 7	P	4	3043	American Legal History: Law, Economy, and Society in the Era	H	2
	Smith, Henry				of the American Revolution		
	Fall 2021 Total Credits:		18	2416	Becoming a Law Professor	CR	1
	Winter 2022 Term: January 04 - January 21			2069	Tobin, Susannah		
1060	Technology and the Public Interest	CR	2	2164	Employment Law	P	4
	Palfrey, John				Block, Sharon		
	Winter 2022 Total Credits:		2	2234	Legal History: American Legal Education	H	2
	Spring 2022 Term: February 01 - May 13				Coquillette, Daniel		
1024	Constitutional Law 7	P	4		Taxation	P	4
	Gersen, Jeannie Suk				Warren, Alvin		
1001	Contracts 7	P	4		Spring 2023 Total Credits:		13
	Coates, John				Total 2022-2023 Credits:		27
2068	Employment Discrimination	H	2	2000	Fall 2023 Term: August 30 - December 15		
	Churchill, Steve						
1006	First Year Legal Research and Writing 7A	H	2	2025	Administrative Law	~	3
	Tobin, Susannah				Sunstein, Cass		
1005	Torts 7	P	4	2928	Climate and Energy Law and Policy	~	4
	Sargentich, Lewis				Freeman, Jody		
	Spring 2022 Total Credits:		16	2540	Election Law	~	4
	Total 2021-2022 Credits:		36		Stephanopoulos, Nicholas		
	Fall 2022 Term: September 01 - December 31				Reproductive Rights Advocacy	~	2
8001	Child Advocacy Clinic	H	4	2086	Spera, Clara		
	Hazen, Crisanne				Fall 2023 Total Credits:		13
3107	Critical Corporate Theory Lab	H	2	2169	Spring 2024 Term: January 22 - May 10		
	Hanson, Jon						
2079	Evidence	P	4		Federal Courts and the Federal System	~	5
	Schulman, Emily				Fallon, Richard		
					Legal Profession: Complex Litigation	~	2
					Rubenstein, William		
					Spring 2024 Total Credits:		7
					Total 2023-2024 Credits:		20

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Assistant Dean and Registrar

Harvard Law School

Record of: Marissa Cristina Lopez

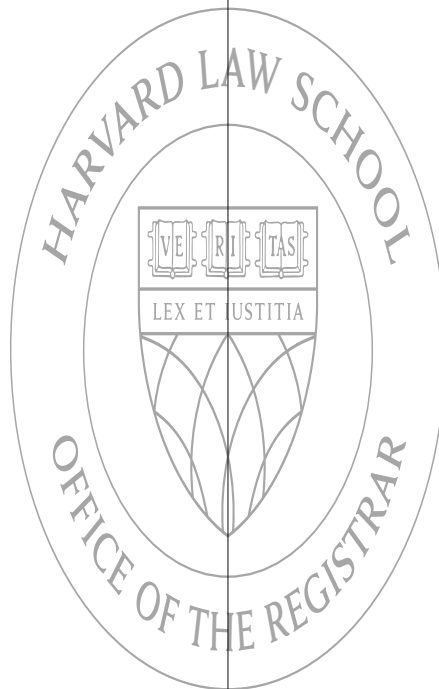
Date of Issue: May 26, 2023

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Page 2 / 2

Total JD Program Credits: 83

End of official record



  
Assistant Dean and Registrar

**HARVARD LAW SCHOOL**  
 Office of the Registrar  
 1585 Massachusetts Avenue  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138  
 (617) 495-4612  
[www.law.harvard.edu](http://www.law.harvard.edu)  
[registrar@law.harvard.edu](mailto:registrar@law.harvard.edu)

Transcript questions should be referred to the Registrar.

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 In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, information from this transcript may not be released to a third party without the written consent of the current or former student.  
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A student is in good academic standing unless otherwise indicated.

#### Accreditation

Harvard Law School is accredited by the American Bar Association and has been accredited continuously since 1923.

#### Degrees Offered

J.D. (Juris Doctor)  
 LL.M. (Master of Laws)  
 S.J.D. (Doctor of Juridical Science)

#### Current Grading System

**Fall 2008 – Present:** Honors (H), Pass (P), Low Pass (LP), Fail (F), Withdrawn (WD), Credit (CR), Extension (EXT)

All reading groups and independent clinicals, and a few specially approved courses, are graded on a Credit/Fail basis. All work done at foreign institutions as part of the Law School's study abroad programs is reflected on the transcript on a Credit/Fail basis. Courses taken through cross-registration with other Harvard schools, MIT, or Tufts Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy are graded using the grade scale of the visited school.

**Dean's Scholar Prize (\*):** Awarded for extraordinary work to the top students in classes with law student enrollment of seven or more.

#### Rules for Determining Honors for the JD Program

*Latin honors are not awarded in connection with the LL.M. and S.J.D. degrees.*

##### May 2011 - Present

<i>Summa cum laude</i>	To a student who achieves a prescribed average as described in the <u>Handbook of Academic Policies</u> or to the top student in the class
<i>Magna cum laude</i>	Next 10% of the total class following <i>summa</i> recipient(s)
<i>Cum laude</i>	Next 30% of the total class following <i>summa</i> and <i>magna</i> recipients

All graduates who are tied at the margin of a required percentage for honors will be deemed to have achieved the required percentage. Those who graduate in November or March will be granted honors to the extent that students with the same averages received honors the previous May.

#### Prior Grading Systems

**Prior to 1969:** 80 and above (A+), 77-79 (A), 74-76 (A-), 71-73 (B+), 68-70 (B), 65-67 (B-), 60-64 (C), 55-59 (D), below 55 (F)

**1969 to Spring 2009:** A+ (8), A (7), A- (6), B+ (5), B (4), B- (3), C (2), D (1), F (0) and P (Pass) in Pass/Fail classes

#### Prior Ranking System and Rules for Determining Honors for the JD Program

*Latin honors are not awarded in connection with the LL.M. and S.J.D. degrees.*

Prior to 1961, Harvard Law School ranked its students on the basis of their respective averages. From 1961 through 1967, ranking was given only to those students who attained an average of 72 or better for honors purposes. Since 1967, Harvard Law School does not rank students.

<u>1969 to June 1998</u>	<u>General Average</u>
<i>Summa cum laude</i>	7.20 and above
<i>Magna cum laude</i>	5.80 to 7.199
<i>Cum laude</i>	4.85 to 5.799

##### June 1999 to May 2010

<i>Summa cum laude</i>	General Average of 7.20 and above (exception: <i>summa cum laude</i> for Class of 2010 awarded to top 1% of class)
<i>Magna cum laude</i>	Next 10% of the total class following <i>summa</i> recipients
<i>Cum laude</i>	Next 30% of the total class following <i>summa</i> and <i>magna</i> recipients

#### Prior Degrees and Certificates

LL.B. (Bachelor of Laws) awarded prior to 1969.

The I.T.P. Certificate (not a degree) was awarded for successful completion of the one-year International Tax Program (discontinued in 2004).

  
 Assistant Dean and Registrar

June 21, 2023

The Honorable Juan Sanchez  
James A. Byrne United States Courthouse  
601 Market Street, Room 14613  
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1729

Dear Judge Sanchez:

I am pleased to enthusiastically recommend Marissa López, a rising 3L at Harvard Law School and an Editor of the Harvard Law Review, for a clerkship in your chambers. I have had the pleasure of getting to know Marissa as a student in my first-year Constitutional Law course and as a research assistant. I am confident that she will be an exceptional law clerk.

In my Constitutional Law course, Marissa stood out as an insightful, prepared, and diligent student. In her writing for the course, she regularly demonstrated a deep understanding of the material, identified the core legal and factual issues, and made invaluable contributions to our classroom discussions. I was particularly impressed by her writings on executive accountability and judicial efficiency, where she expertly charted the tensions between presidential power and the judiciary, making connections far beyond those made in our class discussions.

In my conversations with Marissa, I was impressed by her dedication to the legal profession and intellectual curiosity. I encouraged her to complete the Harvard Law Review competition, and she joined the Law Review and was elected to a senior leadership position as a Supreme Court Chair. It came as no surprise to me that she had the respect of her peers. This past spring, she organized a panel for the Law Review's annual spring event on "Appellate Advocacy in Today's Judiciary." Her diligent orchestration of the event and her thoughtful selection of the theme and speakers demonstrated her multi-faceted abilities.

Beyond being an impressive student, Marissa is also an excellent teacher and mentor. My students in Constitutional Law this year regularly expressed admiration for her teaching when she served as their teaching fellow for Civil Procedure. Thus, I was delighted when she sought me out and offered to speak to my current first-year students about the Law Review competition. Watching her gracefully answer the questions of her peers highlighted not only her intellect, but also her collaborative, collegial nature. She has continuously sought out the advice of my colleagues and her fellow editors in her work for the Law Review, and it has been a pleasure to watch her grow as a leader.

Marissa also worked as my research assistant. In her work, she demonstrated exceptional analytical and research skills, producing detailed research memoranda, each of which highlighted her deep understanding of constitutional law and appellate litigation. Her contribution to my research was always timely, thorough, and demonstrated a strong commitment to legal scholarship and to teamwork. She possesses a tireless work ethic, driven by a desire to dive deeply into every assignment. She not only produced impressive work that set a high standard, but she was always willing to help other RA's when she completed her work before they did. I always found her to be diligent and collaborative, consistently demonstrating a willingness to go above and beyond expectations. Her passion for law is evident, and I have no doubt that she will continue to excel in her future career.

I am pleased to enthusiastically recommend Marissa López for a clerkship. I am very confident that she will make an excellent addition to any team and workplace. If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jeannie Suk Gersen  
John H. Watson, Jr. Professor of Law  
Harvard Law School

Jeannie Suk-Gersen - jsg@law.harvard.edu - 617-496-8834



June 21, 2023

The Honorable Juan Sanchez  
James A. Byrne United States Courthouse  
601 Market Street, Room 14613  
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1729

Dear Judge Sanchez:

Marissa Lopez would make an absolutely fabulous law clerk and I recommend her highly. Ms. Lopez is an editor of the Harvard Law Review and the Supreme Court Co-Chair for the Law Review. She's responsible for choosing the authors of the Law Review's annual and prestigious foreword issue. And she is also responsible for editing that issue. She's a member of the Native American Law Student Association. She is my Teaching Fellow. She is also a Teaching Fellow for Professor Kristen Stilt's Property Class and is a research assistant for Professor Jeannie Suk Gersen. She will be spending her summer at the celebrated law firm of Ropes & Gray. To put it succinctly, she has already distinguished herself as one of the very top students at HLS.

As should be evident from Ms. Lopez's cv, she has a tremendous amount of capacity. She is more than capable of managing multiple demanding tasks and performing each effortlessly. I have had the privilege of advising Ms. Lopez outside of class. I can tell you firsthand about her incredible work ethic. She takes her responsibilities seriously. It is rare that I meet a student that is so conscientious. She worked for two years before coming to law school and it is very clear that she is someone who is used to having responsibilities and is capable of managing those responsibilities with little difficulty.

Ms. Lopez is not just mature and responsible; she is also intellectually gifted. She did extremely well in my Civil Procedure class and has achieved the grade of "honors" in many of her classes. I supervised her writing assignment, which was published in the Harvard Law Review. It was an excellent doctrinal analysis of a Second Circuit case on tribal sovereignty and fishing rights. It was impeccably researched and brilliantly written. Notwithstanding the fact that she has not yet completed law school, she demonstrates, repeatedly, that she can tackle complex, as well as simple, legal questions. She has excellent research and writing skills and is able to digest complicated problems and analyze them with a clarity that is more suggestive of a seasoned attorney than a second-year law student.

Additionally, Ms. Lopez brings a skillset that is not common among law students. She is data literate. She studied data science as an undergraduate at Stanford. She worked at a technology company after graduating from Stanford where she used her software engineering and data science skills. Moreover, as a data scientist and software engineer, Ms. Lopez also thinks about the world differently. She can "think like a lawyer" and also like a scientist. This is a significant intellectual advantage. Her substantive range is much broader than the typical law graduate. In a world in which facility with issues of technology is really important and the legal profession is trying to come to terms with artificial intelligence, Ms. Lopez would bring a remarkable skill set to Chambers.

I cannot recommend Ms. Lopez highly enough. She is both really really smart and very thoughtful. She does not shy away from the hard stuff, and she has a seemingly preternatural ability to make the hard stuff simple. She gets to the heart of the matter and untangles the knots with remarkable intellectual elegance.

She works hard and is not afraid to get her hands dirty. She is the person you can count on to do the grunt work. Nothing fazes her. She is great at meeting deadlines, and she can work with anyone. I have seen her work with students who agree with her and students who disagree with her, she handles it all expertly.

She is an excellent writer. She seeks difficulty writing tasks. She looks for opportunities to improve her writing. She asks for feedback and incorporates it. The result is that she is a great legal writer.

In sum, she has all of the tools that one looks for in a great law clerk. This would be an easy call for me. She will thrive, even in the most demanding, and really particularly in the most demanding, environments. She is definitely someone you should interview, and you will no doubt hire her.

Sincerely,

Guy-Uriel Charles  
Charles Ogletree, Jr. Professor of Law

Guy-Uriel Charles - gcharles@law.harvard.edu

June 21, 2023

The Honorable Juan Sanchez  
James A. Byrne United States Courthouse  
601 Market Street, Room 14613  
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1729

Dear Judge Sanchez:

It's a true pleasure to recommend Marissa Lopez for a clerkship in your chambers. I have known Marissa since the fall of 2021, when she joined my forty-person section of First-Year Legal Research & Writing (LRW). We met regularly in office hours and conferences over the full-year class, discussing Marissa's outstanding research and writing skills, her goals for her career, and current events. Marissa's skill, empathetic character, and good judgment made her my first choice to serve as a member of the Board of Student Advisers, the teaching fellow corps for LRW, but, sadly for me, she went to the Law Review instead, where she is now co-chair of the Supreme Court issue. We have nonetheless stayed in good touch this year, meeting to discuss her academic writing and working together in my upper-level reading group, "Becoming a Law Professor," this spring. As a result, I have a good sense of Marissa's skills, commitments, and interests, and I am confident she will be an outstanding law clerk.

First, Marissa's legal research and writing skills are top-notch. She hit the ground running in LRW, turning in excellent draft memoranda and then working hard to make that excellent work even better. Marissa innately understands that one can always become a better writer, and she receives and incorporates feedback eagerly. She is also a gifted and constructive editor. Our course emphasizes peer editing, and we do a number of draft exchanges throughout the course of the year. Every student (about six in all) who worked with Marissa came to me to say how insightful her edits had been—that kind of universal agreement is rare. In the spring semester, Marissa's collaborative skill was on full display as she and her partner worked together to draft a deeply researched and elegantly persuasive appellate brief. Marissa and her partner were well-matched in ability, and as I listened to them discuss their draft with each other and with me in their conference, I was struck by how much they already sounded like professional attorneys. They painstakingly reviewed each other's work, sitting together in the library and revising every sentence so it read with one voice. This year, as Marissa worked on her case comment for the Law Review, she asked me for feedback and noted that her one-I brief partner had also contributed suggestions. When I opened the characteristically excellent draft, I noticed an incisive running conversation between the two in track changes. I'll further note that Marissa's undergraduate training in data science gives her a unique perspective on legal scholarship, and she is frequently asked by her colleagues to evaluate empirical pieces for the journal. Marissa's strong skills, coupled with her humility and drive to improve, are essential in an effective law clerk.

Second, in addition to her substantial commitment to the Law Review this year, Marissa took on a demanding clinical placement, two teaching assistant positions, and a research assistant position, demonstrating both her commitment to public service and her ability to multitask. Over the fall and winter terms, Marissa worked with the Committee for Public Counsel Services Youth Advocacy Division, where she wrote countless motions and briefs and spent three days a week in court. As a fluent Spanish speaker, she regularly assisted with translation for her clients. Because the clinical placement was off-campus, Marissa spent many hours traveling to and from work and got up early or stayed up late in order to communicate with her clients. In addition, she served as a teaching fellow in Civil Procedure in the fall and Property in the spring; I heard regularly from her students that she had a unique ability to explain challenging concepts, and her office hours were always booked. You will be hearing under separate cover from Professor Guy-Uriel Charles, who can speak to her performance as a teaching fellow in Civil Procedure, and from Professor Jeannie Suk Gersen, who can speak to her work as a research assistant. Each time Marissa and I have met, she has arrived with an organized agenda of topics to discuss, and she never fails to impress me with the range of commitments she is handling with grace and skill.

Finally, Marissa's ability to make time for others even as she juggles demanding courses and extracurricular obligations is notable. She is a campus leader and mentor through her work on the Law Review and as Vice-President of the Native American Law Students Association. Co-chairing the Supreme Court issue of the Law Review is a massive undertaking that requires strong organizational skills, diplomatic sensitivity, and scholarly acumen, all of which Marissa possesses and then some. She is working with the writer of the Foreword, the writers of the case comments for this massive Supreme Court term, and with her colleagues on the Law Review to produce the most read issue of the year. I've witnessed her diplomacy firsthand as she has balanced conflicting input from faculty advisers, objections from student editors, and, of course, the vagaries of the Supreme Court's opinion release schedule. Through it all, she has remained calm, thoughtful, and purposeful—all qualities that will serve her well as a law clerk. As a leader of the Native American Law Students Association, Marissa has mentored countless students and advocated for curriculum expansion while also writing about Native issues for the Law Review.

Marissa plans a varied legal career that will start (hopefully!) with a clerkship and include a combination of practice and academia. Her thoughtful contributions to class discussion in my reading group on legal academia, along with her outstanding service as a teaching assistant, only reinforced my judgment that she is a born scholar and teacher. I hope to see her as a professor one day. In the meantime, though, she will be a terrific law clerk. I hope you hire her. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information about this exceptional candidate.

Sincerely,

Susannah Barton Tobin

Susannah Barton Tobin - [stobin@law.harvard.edu](mailto:stobin@law.harvard.edu) - 617-496-3673

Managing Director, Climenko Program  
Assistant Dean for Academic Career Advising

Susannah Barton Tobin - [stobin@law.harvard.edu](mailto:stobin@law.harvard.edu) - 617-496-3673